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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

COMMITTEES:  
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SENIOR WHIP  
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

April 29, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the following project in fiscal year 2023 for the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. The entity to receive funding is located at the following address: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 7000 Fannin, Suite 1550, Houston, TX 77030.

Funding to the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston will be used to complete the Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center at UTHealth. Specifically, to fund a 3T functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) machine and related structure. Brain imaging is a core component of psychiatric research. Research fMRI that allows viewing of biological system processes live has allowed psychiatrists to make improvements in their diagnostic approach. Scientists have identified markers for a variety of mental health conditions in MRI scans of people with schizophrenia, ADHD, bipolar disorder, depressive disorder, and dementias. Emerging research points towards fMRI scans assisting in early and improved diagnosis of other mental health disorders and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Currently psychiatrists and other mental health professionals diagnose mental health disorders based on observation of symptoms. fMRI will play an important role alongside our excellent clinical team to provide innovative treatments at the DBSC. Additionally, clinically, an fMRI can eliminate other causes of the behavioral health issues such as tumors, stroke, traumatic brain injury, etc.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in any of these projects.

Very truly yours,



Sheila Jackson Lee  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS